

[7th March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

**Investment by Foreign Institutional Investors**

1024. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether R.B.I.'s decision to permit investment by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) in the Mumbai-based Mid-day group was against 1955 Cabinet Resolution on foreign equity in the print media;

(b) if so, whether she has asked the Finance Ministry to clarify the position in this regard, as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 16th February, 2001; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that foreign investors do not influence such publications when difference between FDI and FII is really very thin?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ministry of Finance has issued necessary directions/clarifications to Reserve Bank of India that no foreign investment of any kind is permitted in the print media sector.

**DD dues against producers and agencies**

† 1025. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether amount to the tune of crores of rupees of Doordarshan is outstanding against various producers and agencies;

(b) if so, the names of such persons along with the amount outstanding against each of them;

(c) whether Government are contemplating any effective steps to recover the outstanding amount from such persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details are given in the annexed Statement. (See below)

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Prasar Bharati has intimated that following steps among others have been taken by Doordarshan for recovery of outstanding dues:

- (i) Outstandings are monitored on monthly basis and regular reminders are sent to the agencies for the clearance of the outstanding dues.
- (ii) Agencies, which have outstandings, have been asked to follow a payment plan to wipe off the arrears in three months. Those who do not are not allowed the normal credit period of sixty days. In case the dues are not cleared, the normal credit period is suspended and agencies are allowed their existing programmes only on advance payment of telecast fee.
- (iii) Defaulting agencies are allowed to run their programmes only on advance payment of telecast fee. If they fail to adhere to the payment plan, their programmes are taken off the air.
- (iv) Legal proceedings are launched to recover the outstanding dues if the above does not result in recovery.
- (e) Does not arise.

#### Statement

*Names of Agencies and the amount outstanding against each of them*

Sl.No.	Name of Agency	Outstanding As on* 02.02.2001 (Rs . in
1.	Aaliya Productions	60
2.	ABCL	1016
3.	AD Factor Advtg.	7
4.	Advance TV network	248
5.	Anand advertising	140
6.	APCA	47
7.	B Y Padhya	13
8.	BalajiTelefilms	45
9.	BAG Films	8
10.	Bidhan Advertising	11
11.	Chaitra Advertising	3
12.	Cinema Vision	22
13.	Clarion Advertising	17
14.	Concept Advertising	208
15.	Contract Advertising	10

[7th March, 2001]

## RAJYA SABHA

Sl.No.	Name of Agency	Outstanding As on 9.02.2001 (Rs. in Lacs)
36.	Copy Desk	20
17.	Corrum Communications	21
18.	Crayon Advertising	6
19.	Creative Eye	772
20.	Dawnmod Advertising	307
2).	Drishti India	294
22.	Enterprise Advertising	20
23.	Everest Advertising	20
24.	Fame Communication	388
25.	Film Craft	88
26.	Future Communications	14
27.	Global Entertainers	51
28.	G N Communications	25
29.	Guruji Advertisers	150
30.	HTA	50
51.	Hansa Vision	108
32.	Innovision Film & TV Dis	25
33.	Jatiyaar Pub.	25
34.	Jaya Advertising	54
35.	Joslin Comm.	42
36.	Kine Scope	70
37.	KIJ	8
38.	Lehar Publicity Service	24
39.	Magic Box	14
40.	M <sub>u</sub> gna Vision	108
41.	Market Movers	317
42.	Maya Entertainment	212
43.	MBM	163
44.	Media Asia	146
45.	Moulis Advertising	6
46.	Multi Channel	1500
47.	National Saving Organisation	2
48.	NCYP	11
49.	Neerja Films	40

SLNo.	Name of Agency	Outstanding As on 9.02.2001 (Rs. in Lacs)
50.	NFDC	7500
51.	Nimbus Comm.	612
51.	NumeroUNO	137
53.	PNC	264
54.	Pas International	28
55.	Pen 'A* Trait	4
56.	Plus Channel	1205
57.	Prime Time Media	102
58.	Prominent	72
59.	Radha Publicity	18
60.	Reasonable Advtg.	189
61.	Sagar Enterprises	447
62.	Shree Madhav	1270
63.	Triton Comm.	13
64.	Universal	88
65.	Uranus	30
66.	UTV	45
67.	Vjgyapan	12
68.	W D Consumer	375
69.	World Media	66
70.	Worldcom M/M	58
TOTAL:		19491

Less: under Litigation 4889

Amount Protected by BG 1230

Balance Outstanding 13372

**Seats offered to SCs / STs in Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute,  
Kolkata**

1026. VENULE DHAMMAVTRIYO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee had recommended in 1993 to admit SC / ST students to the fullest extent of the quota of seats reserved for them in all the educational / academic institutions;